

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: NATO, GR
SUBJ: GREECE-NATO RELATIONS

REF: USNATO 6306 (DTG 011207Z JUL 77)

1. ACCORDING TO THE JULY 4 ISSUE OF THE SEMI-OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY BULLETIN (ANA), A GOVERNMENT SOURCE HAS SAID THAT "THE REPORT OF A GENERAL SUSPENSION OF (GREEK-NATO) TALKS IS INACCURATE. WHAT IS TRUE IS THAT TURKEY HAS RAISED OBJECTIONS TO SOME POINTS CONTAINED IN THE GREEK PROPOSALS." FURTHERMORE, THE ANA ON JULY 5 ATTRIBUTED TO "WELL-INFORMED GOVERNMENT SOURCES" THE CLARIFYING STATEMENT THAT THE GOG EXPECTED "SUBSTANTIVE TALKS" DEFINING THE STATUS OF GREECE'S SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO TO BEGIN NEXT FALL.

2. THIS GOG COMMENT WAS SPARKED BY A REPORT APPEARING IN LIBERAL,
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OPPOSITION TO VIMA OVER THE WEEKEND THAT OTHER NATO MEMBERS HAVE DECIDED TO REJECT A GREEK PROPOSAL FOR SOME FORM OF SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WHICH WOULD SANCTION GREECE'S CURRENT POSITION TOWARD THE ALLIANCE. ON JULY 3 TO VIMA FRONTPAGED AN ARTICLE BY ITS CORRESPONDENT IN BRUSSELS QUOTING NATO SOURCES THERE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE GREEK PROPOSAL HAD BEEN REJECTED DUE TO A TURKISH "VETO" AND BECAUSE THE OTHER ALLIES DID NOT WISH TO SET A PRECEDENT WITH

GREECE THAT MIGHT ENCOURAGE SIMILAR REQUESTS FROM OTHER MEMBERS.
THE ARTICLE ALLEGED THE LAST VISIT TO BRUSSELS OF MFA SECRETARY
GENERAL BYRON THEODOROPoulos WAS RELATED TO THE DECISION TO REJECT
THE GREEK PROPOSAL.

3. THIS STORY HAS HAD ONLY LIMITED REPLAY IN THE GREEK MEDIA AND
CAUSED RELATIVELY LITTLE COMMENT.
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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